

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 3, 2002**

Members Present: Matthew Smith, Chairman; Per Bang-Jensen, Vice-Chairman; Harry Atherton; Larry Weeks; Ann McCarty; Laurence Mason; R. E. Moore; David Cubbage and Liz Cook.

Members Absent: Sam Poles

Guests Present: Peter Mitchell and Jon Whichard.

Staff Present: Fran Williams

1. ***Approval of July 31, 2002 and September 25, 2002 Committee Meeting Minutes and October 30, 2002 Meeting Notes (The October Transportation Committee Meeting did not have a quorum of the membership.)***

On motion made by Per Bang-Jensen and seconded by Harry Atherton it was moved to approve the July 31, 2002 and September 25, 2002 Committee meeting minutes as well as the October 30, 2002 meeting notes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. ***Consider a Request to Include Cannonball Gate Road in the Secondary Road Six-Year Plan – Mr. Quick.***

Mr. Quick was not present at the meeting. Bob Moore stated that Cannonball Gate Road is already included in the Six-Year Plan.

3. ***Discuss and Consider Making a Recommendation on the Lake Drive Options Related to the Development of the Brookside Community. (Item #5)***

Liz Cook provided the Committee with a graphic detailing the available options related to the development of the Brookside Community. Larry Weeks stated that he has sent a letter outlining the Lake Drive options to all property owners in the vicinity of this development, but has not received any feedback.

On motion made by Larry Weeks and seconded by Harry Atherton, it was moved to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve Option 1 for Lake Drive. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ***Discuss and Consider Making a Recommendation on Traffic Calming Measures for the Lake Drive area. (Item #6)***

Liz Cook stated that information was previously distributed to Committee members by Rick Carr concerning traffic calming measures for the Lake Drive area. Ms. Cook further stated that the real question has to do with the timing of the traffic calming measures, with one of the concerns being the construction traffic. Larry Weeks stated that he would like to see restrictive measures put in place so that construction traffic does not use Lake Drive as a short cut. Liz Cook suggested that three-way stop signs be installed and once the streets connect, install four-way stop signs. Larry Weeks stated that this would discourage construction traffic on the already paved streets and force them to use Sheperdstown

Road or the Vint Hill gate.

On motion made by Larry Weeks and seconded by Harry Atherton, it was moved to forward this item to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation of approval. The motion carried unanimously.

5. *Receive an Update on Proposed Signage on Interstate 66 for the Archwood Barns and Uniform Signage for Orchards – Peter Mitchell. (Item #8)*

Peter Mitchell stated that Archwood Barns is a farmer's market which is open on Sundays with other activities scheduled on weekends throughout the summer. Mr. Mitchell asked the Committee if there was any possibility of having more uniform signs installed rather than the currently used cardboard signs. Bob Moore stated that he had looked into this matter some time ago and noted that it is hard to justify signs on interstate highways. Mr. Moore stated that such signage usually requires approximately 30,000 to 50,000 visitors per year with further requirements of being open for a certain number of hours, seven days per week with restrooms open to the public. Mr. Moore further stated that the signs in place for vineyards came through the General Assembly. Harry Atherton stated that he would contact Delegate Clay Athey to see if there is any interest in sponsoring a similar program for Archwood Barns and orchards.

6. *Consider the Poplar Grove Sound Abatement Issue. (Item #3)*

Bob Moore stated that Sheriff Higgs and his staff have met with VDOT, State Police, Paul McCulla, Jonathan Lynn and Joe Winkelmann concerning the wording of the recently passed Noise Ordinance. The Board of Supervisors will be asked to consider re-wording the Ordinance to determine when a ticket should be written. Also discussed was the issue of liability in limiting the use of jake-brakes. Mr. Moore stated that VDOT will allow signs to go up, but the Attorney General's office will need to decide on the wording. The cost of the signs will have to be paid for by the County.

Per Bang-Jensen stated that one of the issues that has delayed this is the concern that if the County tells truckers not to use jake-brakes and an accident occurs, they may say Fauquier County is responsible. Mr. Bang-Jensen further stated that sovereign immunity might mean that this is not an issue, but he is trying to see what other jurisdictions are doing before going to Richmond.

Jon Whichard stated that three (3) trucks have turned over within 30 miles of Fauquier County in the last three (3) weeks. Mr. Whichard further stated that ABF Trucking Systems does not use jake-brakes on any of their trucks and they have been rated number one in safety. Mr. Whichard stated that the berm currently in place is too low. Because he is concerned about the safety of his family as well as his neighborhood, he is asking for the speed limit to be reduced, proper abatement be installed in his neighborhood and for the installation of signs as a deterrent. Mr. Whichard also stated that since the new weigh station is not being used, no sound study can be done. Bob Moore stated that there is currently limited use of the weigh station because of the State's financial crunch.

Per Bang-Jensen stated that VDOT cannot put up a soundwall/berm on existing roads unless it is shown that the weigh station generates additional noise. Committee members discussed the possibility of lowering the speed limit from the Community College to Route 605 as another way of reducing the noise levels as well as a recent request to have the speed limit lowered on all Fauquier County roads. Matthew Smith reiterated that he is against having the speed limit lowered throughout the County.

7. *Receive an Update and Consider Making a Recommendation on the Secondary Road Improvement Budget for FY 2003-2004 and the FY 2003-2004 Six-Year Improvement Program and Primary Road Funding Priorities. (Item #4)*

Dave Cabbage distributed copies of the Six-Year Secondary Road Improvement Plan, which is the same as was handed out at the last meeting, with a few minor changes. Committee members discussed moving Dumfries Road to #9 and Moss Hollow Road to #15.

On motion made by Matthew Smith and seconded by Larry Mason, it was moved to send the amended Six-Year Secondary Road Plan to the Board of Supervisors with a recommendation of approval. The motion carried unanimously.

8. *Initiate Process to do Studies Necessary to Restrict Tractor Trailer Traffic on Route 710 (Rectortown Road), Route 709 (Zulla Road), Route 713 (Atoka Road), and Route 626 (Halfway Road). (Item #7)*

Bob Moore stated that VDOT will complete a traffic study as discussed at the Committee's September meeting. Mr. Moore stated that he has also received complaints about construction trucks (i.e., dump trucks and concrete trucks) and speed along Beverly's Mill Road (Route 600) and will include this road in the study as well. Mr. Moore stated that this study should be completed within the next calendar year.

9. *Receive an Update Regarding Route 29 Crossovers. (Item #9)*

Bob Moore stated that VDOT is still looking at this issue. *(Include on January's agenda.)*

10. *Other Items. (Item #10)*

Ann McCarty stated that Lea Road, which is parallel to Route 66, is dangerous because of trucks and timid drivers. Mrs. McCarty stated that some people are driving in the middle of the road because there are no painted lines. Bob Moore stated that VDOT will take a look at this road.

Bob Moore stated that there was a request to widen Ramey Road (Route 732) and improve the shoulders for safety reasons, but some people did not want the road rebuilt. Mr. Moore stated that his suggestion is to trim back some of the vegetation this winter and then when the weather improves to add some shoulder width. Harry Atherton stated that there are a couple of bad shoulders where the pavement drops causing a safety problem and agreed with Mr. Moore's suggestion. Mr. Atherton will pass this information on to those who have made inquiries.

Bob Moore informed the Committee that he has received a promotion and will be working in VDOT's Culpeper office and this will be his last meeting. Committee members congratulated Mr. Moore on his promotion and expressed their appreciation for all the hard work he has done on behalf of the Committee and Fauquier County. Dave Cabbage will be the interim Resident Engineer.

Per Bang-Jensen discussed the need to limit the number of Rural Road Additions because of the lack of funds. Ann McCarty stated that exceptions should be made for hardship cases.

On motion made by Per Bang-Jensen and seconded by Larry Weeks, it was moved to limit the number of private roads included in the Rural Addition Program. The motion carried unanimously.

(The Resolution read as follows: *"Be it resolved that due to the reduction in VDOT's funding for the Secondary Road improvement budget and in order to preserve funding for projects that improve public*

safety, it is recommended that through FY 2004 that private roads not be included in the Rural Addition Program if they require funding from the Secondary Road Improvement budget.")

Larry Mason stated that a memo from Sharon McCamy had been distributed to the Committee. Matthew Smith suggested that this list be considered at the next meeting so that Larry Weeks would have time to review it.

Liz Cook stated that the Committee's next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2003 at its regular location.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.